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Virginia Air Board  
c/o Terry Darton  
Air Permit Manager  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

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Northern Va. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

Dear Air Board-

I cannot believe the City Council is working so hard to try and close the Potomac River Generating Station. This plant has been a part of our community for longer than most people have lived here and I just do not see any good reason to close it down.

Mirant, the new owners, are making every effort to improve the current systems and is going so far as to invest 30 million dollars in smoke stack remodeling with their smoke stack merge project. This allows the plant to continue using their current stacks while giving them the benefits of taller stacks by forcing the particulates higher into the atmosphere. They are doing this even though they already meet and beat current environmental standards.

It amazes me that the Council is playing political games and spending tax dollars in an effort to close down this plant when it plays such a key role in providing much needed energy into the region's grid system. From what I can see, the Council is more interested in closing the plant so they can sell off the land instead of allowing a long standing part of our community to improve upon the service they have been providing reliably for almost 60 years. That is almost as long as I have been a member of this community.

Please stop the Council's games and let us move forward. Save our tax dollars and let Mirant make the changes they have planned to. This will not only improve the quality of air in Alexandria, but will continue providing energy long into the future.

Sincerely,

Mary Niklewski

